

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Newly-added Claims 21-34 are supported by the specification and the original claims. Accordingly, no new matter is believed to have been added to the present application by the amendments submitted above.

REMARKS

Claims 21-34 are pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the amendment submitted above, the subject matter of original Claims 7-14 has been re-written in independent form.

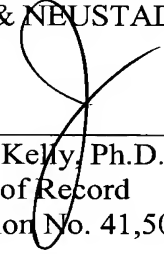
The rejection of Claims 1 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and the rejection of Claims 2-3 and 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are believed to be moot in view of the cancellation of those claims and the amendments submitted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

The rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is believed to be obviated by the amendment submitted above. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



James J. Kelly, Ph.D.
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 41,504

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)